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Cassis encouraged by governor's commitment to GOP vision of job creation and economic growth

Lansing – Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) said she was encouraged to hear Gov. Jennifer Granholm's commitment to work with Republicans on creating jobs and spurring Michigan's economy during her State of the State Address last week.

"Michigan is a great state, and we have made tremendous strides over the last 12 years thanks to a Republican driven agenda," said Cassis. "I think Governor Granholm recognizes this and we are pleased and heartened that she has embraced many of our initiatives."

To keep Michigan moving forward, Cassis said the governor and Legislature need to focus on fostering:

- A strong, healthy economy that creates jobs, reduces taxes and enhances Michigan's economic competitiveness;
- A strong, accountable public school system that graduates students with the needed skills to successfully enter the workforce or pursue a higher education degree;
- A healthy environment, protecting our Great Lakes and restrictions on out-of-state trash; and
- Healthy citizens and families, with access to affordable healthcare and prescription drugs.

Senator Cassis has spearheaded many initiatives in support of this agenda, including SB 672, now PA 240, which reduces the taxes paid by employers on healthcare benefits under the state's Single Business Tax, and SB 502, a bill that prohibits out-of-state trash from entering the state unless the place of origin has the same stringent waste standards as Michigan. The Senate unanimously passed this bill in October.

"I applaud the governor's willingness to work with us on these key issues that are so critical to the financial security, health and welfare of Michigan's families."

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